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COMMUNICATION

Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

This is **not** a Reply to the Office Action, which Reply will be filed in due course.

Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on April 3, 2006. Applicants respectfully request the examiner to provide applicants with a copy of the form SB/08A with the examiner's initials on such form adjacent each citation, thus confirming that the examiner has considered these citations

Appln. No. 09/831,830 Communication. dated October 13, 2006

The Office Action of October 4, 2006, states at the beginning of paragraph 2 on page 2 that claims 1-20 are rejected under §102 as anticipated by Matsumoto '263. Nothing is said regarding claims 21-35. On the other hand, beginning at the bottom pf page 5, claims 21 through 35 are specifically mentioned in conjunction with what "Matsumoto discloses".

Applicants request clarification as to the ground of rejection on claims 21-35, assuming these claims are intended to be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

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